

# Queensland Carers Advisory Council Communique – November 2025

The Queensland Carers Advisory Council (the Council) met for the final time of its 2024–2026 term on 5 November 2025.

The meeting was Chaired by Jim Toohey (Chief Executive Officer, Carers Queensland) and attended by Carer representatives Melissa Williams, Dr Nancy Spencer and Slawka Bell (Grandparent carer representative). Carer association representatives Louise Faulkner (Wellways Carer Gateway) and Irene Clelland (Arafmi) were also present. Queensland Government agencies represented included Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety (the department), Queensland Health, Department of Education and Office of the Public Guardian.

A Queensland Health representative presented on the Hospital in the Home (HITH) program. HITH offers hospital-level care in a patient's home or other preferred location as an alternative to in-hospital treatment.

The Council received an update on processes to inform the proposed review of the *Carers (Recognition) Act 2008* including possible options for consultation. Council members committed to supporting engagement in consultation processes with the review remaining a key priority for the Council.

The Honourable Amanda Camm Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence attended the meeting. The Minister highlighted the engagement of carers in intersecting systems, noting the impacts of uncertainty in disability reform for carers and recognising economic losses experienced by carers. Minister Camm acknowledged the contributions of QCAC members, thanking them for their service and valuable input in advancing the interests of carers across the Council term.

The Council prioritised engaging young carers in their 2025–26 workplan and agreed to consider initiatives that enable the voice of young carers to be heard.

Council members received an update on "Working with Carers" resources, highlighting tools for GPs and health professionals to support carers within health systems, including concise presentations, conversation guides and multimedia resources, with plans for future expansion and ongoing reviews. Council members were invited to distribute the resources across their networks. The resources are available at: [Working with Carers - A Guide for Healthcare Professionals](#).

Council members discussed possible priorities for the next Council to sustain the momentum achieved during the current term. Ideas included exploring possible reform opportunities, supporting carers and businesses with re-skilling and job readiness initiatives, reviewing the Queensland Carers Charter, and pursuing advocacy and research on the economic impact of carer labour force marginalisation, employer support benefits, and targeted workforce re-entry programs for carers.

The Chair acknowledged the contribution of members to the Council across the 2024–2026 term and thanked members for their commitment to supporting Queensland carers.